FY 2009 Capital Budget TPS Report 48788

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)

Grant Recipient: Nulato

Project Title:

Nulato - Grader Acquisition

State Funding Requested: \$ 196,342	House District: 6 - C
One-Time Need	

Brief Project Description:

The City of Nulato would like to purchase a new grader.

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$196,342

<u>Funding Secured</u> <u>Other Pending Requests</u> <u>Anticipated Future Need</u>

Amount FY Amount FY Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The City of Nulato would like to purchase a new grader to maintain the roads in there community. The current grader is 26 years old and continually needs to be maintained. A new grader will enable the maintenance staff to better remove snow and ice, keeping the roads clear and safe for vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

Project Timeline:

Purchase of new grader will occur in 2009

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

City of Nulato

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Greg & Kim Joyce Phone Number: (907) 898-2205

Address: PO Box 65009 Nulate, AK 99765

Email: rejoyce@gci.net

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? X Yes No

Page 1

Contact Name: Melanie Herbert Contact Number: 465-4527 For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

4:48 PM 4/29/2008

NULATO ROAD GRADER PROJECT 2008

THE PROJECT:

The City of Nulato needs to purchase a new road grader. We have selected the John Deere model 770 D, which will best meet our needs. The projected cost is \$188,950.00 for the grader and \$7,392.00 to cover shipping expenses to get it delivered in Nulato, making the total cost for the project \$196,342.00.

THE NEED:

Our need for a new grader is extreme! Nulato is a remote village (see community profile) and we depend on our roads year round. Our existing grader is 26 years old, is continually breaking down, and needs to be retired. A new grader will enable our road maintenance staff to focus on actually maintaining the roads rather than struggling to keep the grader in working condition. Our community has approximately 12 miles of road, all of it gravel and needing continual maintenance winter and summer.

Located in the Interior, we experience very cold weather in winter. We need a dependable grader to remove snow and ice, keeping the roads clear and safe for vehicle and pedestrian traffic. A new grader appropriately equipped for cold weather use is essential. In the summer season the grader is needed to repair the roads after break-up, fill potholes in summer and fall, and prep the roads for winter prior to freeze-up. We need a grader our community can depend on year round.

We have NO OTHER OPTIONS for road maintenance. The City of Nulato has no other equipment available to meet these needs. Even our old front end loader, which is used to help with snow removal, is frequently not in working order. Our community needs a new grader, and we need it this year! We attempted to obtain funding last year through the State Legislature, and subsequently in the Governor's budget, but to no avail. Another year has passed with more mechanical failures and numerous periods of unsafe road conditions. Our community really needs a solution to this problem. Following are some critical concerns regarding the use and maintenance of our roads.

-School:

We have 53 children who attend our school; the roads, school bus and private vehicles are the means to get them there. The New Town Site (where about 90% of the students live) is approximately 2.2 miles from the school. The bus makes the round trip four times every school day. Individuals driving their own vehicles make many more trips. A new

grader will ensure adequate road maintenance, and thereby provide the children with safe and appropriate school access. (Coincidentally, at the time this was written, the local school cancelled bus service to the children, due to unsafe driving conditions, leaving parents/students to find their own way home.)

-Medical:

In remote villages the air strip is literally the "life line" to the rest of the world. The Nulato Health Clinic in the New Town Site is located 3 miles from the air strip. Our clinic sends out approximately 30 med-evacs annually. Our health aides also make approximately 15 house calls per month to visit sick, elderly or immobile patients. In addition, the health aides transport many other patients to and from the air strip so they can receive medical attention in Fairbanks, and to the clinic to receive services. It is self evident how critical adequate road maintenance is for the life and health of our residents.

-Safety:

We use cars and trucks year round and ATV's in the summer months. These vehicles require a road system that is maintained; snow removal in winter and adequate grading in summer. The safety of our residents is dependant upon keeping the roads in proper condition. Roads that become covered in snow or ice, or riddled with pot holes, present a danger to motorists and pedestrians. The New Town Site is located on a hill, so these hazards increase in the area where the great majority of our residents live. Snow and ice covered roads make negotiating hills and turns difficult and dangerous. A new grader equipped with a ripper / scarifier combination will keep ice build up on the roads to a minimum.

-Economic:

We have four stores in Nulato which supply residents with groceries and household / convenience items. All of these supplies come by air, and airline agents must transport these goods from the planes to town via the road. All mail arrives the same way and must be transported to the Post Office by the same agents, over the same roads. Nearly every person coming or going in Nulato travels by road to / from the airstrip; the others arrive by boat or snow machine and the summer travelers who arrive by boat must still use the road to reach their final destination. In short, any and all economic activity is dependant upon our roads.

-Cultural / Subsistence:

Even our traditional / subsistence activities are road dependant. With approximately 80% of our households living 2 miles from the Yukon River, we rely on road transportation entirely during the summer months. All boat accessible activities; spring, summer and fall fishing, summer and fall berry picking, fall moose hunting, firewood gathering, etc. are critically linked to road use. People must bring their gas and other boating supplies down to the river bank by truck or ATV, using the road, and they in turn bring their fish, moose meat, berries etc. back home the same way. Without adequate road maintenance our residents would not be able to harvest these resources and our quality of life would suffer greatly.

-Environmental:

Our grader is also needed to maintain our landfill in proper order. We use it to keep refuse in the dump area and keep the access road open. When the grader is not working (which has been frequent in the past couple of years) the trash piles up and blocks the entrance, causing an environmental problem. Refuse then is carried by the wind into surrounding wetlands. This is an eyesore as well as an environmental and potential health issue. A new grader will help ensure a cleaner, healthier community.

-Recreational:

Our roads provide access to numerous recreational opportunities our residents enjoy. Sport fishing and canoeing in Nulato River, local berry picking, bird hunting, bicycle riding, access to the ball field and a host of other healthy recreational activities all depend upon a safe, adequately maintained road system. A new grader is essential in providing for all these needs.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION:

The city of Nulato is not in a financial position to make this purchase, nor can we match funds. As a community we are already struggling to continue to meet the needs of our residents. We must have help if we are to purchase a new grader. If we receive the necessary funding to acquire it, we will maintain it with **no future obligation** from the state.

Our timeline is to purchase the grader as soon as possible after receipt of funds and have it shipped this summer from Nenana via Inland Barge Line.

The contact person(s) for this project is:

Greg and Kim Joyce P.O. Box 65009 Nulato, AK 99765 907-898-2205 rejoyce@gci.net

This request was submitted to you last year, but was not funded. We appreciate your consideration in this matter. We hope you will enable us to move ahead with this project and ensure a safer, more productive future for every resident and visitor in our community. On behalf of them, we thank you.

Respectfully,

Greg A. Joyce Kimberly A. Joyce (City Clerk)

Nulato Community Profile.....

Nulato is located on the west bank of the Yukon River approximately 300 air miles west of Fairbanks, which puts us about 300 miles off the road system as well. We are in the western Interior of the state. Access to our village is by commercial aircraft, via Fairbanks, or by boat or snow machine. During the summer months we are served by two barge lines out of Nenana. Neighboring villages are Kaltag, Koyukuk and Galena.

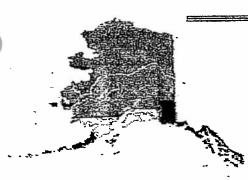
We are a Koyukon Athabaskan village of about 325 residents. The Koyukon Athabaskan people are indigenous to this region and Nulato has been a permanent settlement for approximately 150 years. We were incorporated as a second class city in 1963. Nulato is recognized by ANCSA and is a member of the Yukon-Koyukuk sub region of Tanana Chiefs Conference. We have both a tribal government (Nulato Tribal Council) and a city government (the City of Nulato). Both are governed by an elected council with their respective leaders (First and Second Chief / Mayor and Vice-Mayor).

In the late 1970's the community began to move out of the flood zone along the Yukon River bank and develop the New Town Site on a nearby ridge line, approximately 2 miles from the river. Currently about 85% of our residents live in the New Town Site and the rest live in the Old Town by the river. The school and local church are located in the Old Town while the Post Office, stores, City and Tribal offices are in the New Town Site. We have about 12 miles of gravel roads connecting the New Town Site, the Old Town, The Yukon and Nulato River access points, school, airstrip and other components of our community.

Most residents in the new Town Site have water and sewer service. Electricity is generated locally and provided through the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative. Telephone and satellite television service is available to most residents. Internet access is available to most residents through GCI.

Nulato residents are faced with limited job opportunities so unemployment is high. Disposable income is very limited. Our residents rely upon subsistence hunting, fishing and gathering to provide for their own needs and to enjoy their cultural heritage. "Store food" is very expensive, due to shipping costs, and many people prefer the taste and health benefits of harvesting wild foods. Local people rely heavily upon boats in the summer and snow machines in winter to get out into surrounding areas for subsistence activities. Transportation within the village consists of cars and trucks. ATV's and snow machines.

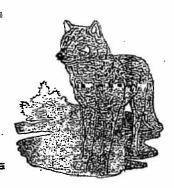
Like many other rural communities, Nulato is facing a challenging and uncertain future. Our desire is to move boldly into that future, retaining the strengths of a cultural heritage while adapting to the changing world of the future.



CITY OF NULATO

P.O. BOX 65009 NULATO, ALASKA 99765

> (907)898-2205 F&X (907)898-2203



January 23, 2008

Dear Legislature,

As both the elected Mayor of Nulato and a Health Aide serving the medical needs of our community, I would like to ask you to please approve funding for our road grader project.

Our city currently has a 26 year old grader. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find parts for it, the costs of keeping it running are getting higher and higher, and it is out of service needing repairs more frequently. Our road maintenance staff is doing all they can but we're faced with an approaching crises.

If we are not able to purchase a new grader we will be faced with a serious problem next winter. There are many days when the roads are in need of snow or ice removal, but the grader is inoperable. Every year this problem is worse. This makes driving hazardous.

I'm concerned for the members of our community. My role as mayor makes me speak out on their behalf. My position as health aide makes me doubly concerned. Roads glazed with ice are a real danger to drivers and pedestrians. Roads covered with snow make it difficult or impossible to address the health situations that arise.

Therefore, I ask you to please fund the road grader project. Help make our community safer and prepared to face next winter. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon Agnes, Mayor of Nulato



Andrew K. Demoski School P.O. Box 65029 Nulato, AK 99765

Telephone: (907) 898-2204 Email: mday@yksd.com Principal: Michael Day Fax: (907) 898-2340
Website: www.yksd.com

Admin. Assistant: Josephine McGinty

January 24, 2008

To: State Legislature

Re: Road Grader

As the Principal of the Andrew K. Demoski School in the community of Nulato we have 53 students enrolled in our school. I would like to express my concerns about the current city grader. It is 26 years old and has daily maintenance issues. Our school relies totally on the city to maintain the road between the school and the village. With out this service our roads cannot be maintained in a manner that would allow the school bus to pick the students up before school or take them home after school.

The majority of our students live in the Newtown site, which is approximately 3 miles from the school. With temperatures dropping way below freezing during the winter months it is essential that we provide a bus service for the community. Without a workable grader this service will be greatly hindered.

As the Principal of the Andrew K. Demoski School I would hope that you would strongly consider providing the City of Nulato with the necessary funding that would allow them to upgrade their grader.

Sincerer

Michael N. Day

Principal

CITY OF NULATO

P.O. BOX 65009

NULATO, ALASKA 99765

(907)898-2205 FAX (907)898-2203



January 22, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

Nulato has a 12 mile road system. Since 1982 we have been maintaining these roads with a 570A Grader. The Grader is used year round: For grading in the summer months, and snow removal in the winter months. In keeping our roads open year round, it allows the school district to provide bus service. The Tribal Government can provide ambulance service. The City could provide other services that could not be provided to the residents if the roads were not open. One example would be delivery heating oil in the winter months. Now the Grader is old (26 years) and parts are not always available. We usually have to wait several weeks while the parts are being ordered from stateside. The City residents would greatly appreciate any assistance in purchasing a new Grader.

Stanley Demoski City of Nulato- Maintenance FROM : NULATO TRIBAL COUNCIL

FAX NO. :9078982207

Jan. 23 2008 09:06AM P1

JAN-22-2008 TUE 03:59 PM FBKS LEGISLATIVE INFO

FAX NO. 19074583346

P. 01/01

Public Opinion Message

Legislative information Office, 1292 Sector Way, Suite 305, Februaris, AK 99701
Phone: \$87-452-4448 Fax: \$67-456-3346 Email: Februaris_Lic@legis.state.ak.us

This form must be completely filled out. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.

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EQUIPMENT RENTALS



Sales & Service

PRUDHOE BAY DEADHORSE AIRPORT DEADHORSE, AK TEL (907) 659-2000 FAX (907) 659-2104

DELTA JUNCTIONMI. 1421.1 ALASKA HWY
DELTA JUCTION, AK 99737
TEL (907) 895-9898
FAX (907) 895-9888

FAIRBANKS 1310 VAN HORN FAIRBANKS, AK. 99701 TEL (907) 456-2000 FAX (907) 479-7609

RENTAL ZONE 1189 OLD STEESE HWY FAIRBANKS, AK. 99701 TEL (907) 474-2000 FAX (907) 451-7609 ANCHORAGE 10460 OLD SEWARD HWY ANCHORAGE, AK 99515 TEL (907) 522-6466 FAX (907) 522-6467

KENAI/SOLDOTNA 42107 KALIFORNSKY BEACHRD SOLDOTNA, AK 99669 TEL (907) 335-5466 FAX (907) 335-5467

NAME Kim Joyce	DATE 1/18/2008
COMPANY City of Nulato	F.O.B. Nenana Barge Lines
PHONE # 907-898-2268	TERMS Cash Sale
E-MAIL MEDICATION	DELIVERY N/A
WE ARE PLEASED TO OFFER THIS SALES AGREEMEDESCRIPTION:	ENT FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:
2008 John Deere 770D motor grader (see attached specs	;)
Total cash sale price - \$188,950.00	
THIS PROPOSAL IS GOOD FOR THIRTY (ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT:	(30) DAY AND IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY
ACCEPTANCE OF ACREEMENT.	THANK YOU
PRINT	Mike Lynch 347-8912
SIGN	
TITLE	
DATE	



POB 393, NENANA, ALASKA 99760 PHONE: (907) 832 5645

(800) 840 2628 FAX: (907) 832 5640

FAX

TO: Kim COMPANY: (ite of Mulato

FAX: 898-2203 PHONE:_____

FROM: 500 DATE: 1/18/08 PAGES /

Re: John Deere Grader

This is to confirm the price for shipping the above to Nulato during the 2008 summer season:

44,000 pounds @16.80/hundred pounds = 7,392.00

Our deck space is reserved in advance. At this time, we could transport your equipment in late-May or early-June.

Thank you for the opportunity to bid on this shipment.